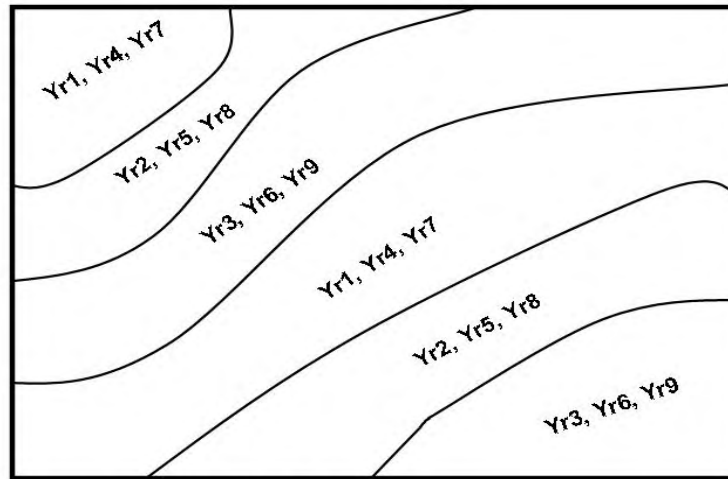


## **WILDLIFE HABITAT MANAGEMENT ENHANCEMENT CONSERVATION SECURITY PROGRAM**



- 1/3 of field treated annually
- Untreated strips about twice as wide as treated area

### **ROTATIONAL STRIP DISKING ROTATIONAL STRIP HERBICIDING**

#### **WHAT:**

Rotational strip disking or rotational strip herbiciding are techniques of disturbance designed to suppress heavier stands of grass in a manner that reduces litter and allows for native forbs (broadleaf plants) in the soil to germinate and persist for up to two years. Eligible fields for this enhancement must have at least 50 percent of the acreage with slopes less than 10 percent.

#### **WHEN:**

Strip disking or strip herbiciding is allowed during either a spring period (February 15 to April 14), or a fall period (September 1 to October 15).

Strip disking or strip herbiciding performed in fall and early spring encourages more forbs beneficial for wildlife, such as common ragweed and partridge pea. Treatments in March and April will encourage more grasses such as foxtail.

#### **WHERE:**

This enhancement applies to pastures and haylands of

- a. Introduced grasses, i.e. fescue, bermudagrass,
- b. Native warm season grasses, i.e. big bluestem, little bluestem, switchgrass,
- c. Low management "old fields" with grasses such as broomsedge bluestem and various broadleaf herbaceous plants.

This enhancement involves the treatment of all portions of the field consisting of slopes up to 10 percent. Field portions steeper than 10 percent will not be disked to prevent soil erosion. Any existing or developing plum thickets, blackberry clumps or sassafras clumps, up to two percent of the field, should be left untreated for cover value.

**HOW:**

Strip disking or strip herbiciding will be done generally on the contour of slopes. Dense vegetation will be pre-treated (mowing or prescribed burn) several weeks prior if necessary to facilitate the disking or herbiciding. Herbicide treatments must be performed when the vegetation is actively growing, and in accordance with label requirements. Approved grass herbicides for this enhancement are glyphosate and imazopic formulations.

Post-disked strips shall be limited to the following percentage of bare ground:

- a. Introduced grasses – 50 percent
- b. Native warm season grasses – 30 percent
- c. Old fields – 50 percent

**HOW MUCH:**

No more than one third of the field shall be treated each year, in a rotation that completes the disturbance cycle over three years. Each disked or sprayed strip shall not exceed 50 feet in width, and must be separated by an untreated strip twice the width of the treated area.

For this enhancement, all planned acres must be treated at least once during the contract period (i.e. it must be selected/applied within three years of contract expiration). Treatments will be required to be performed on the rotational basis from the beginning scheduled year of the contract through the final year of the contract.

Enhancement payment is \$45.00 per acre per year for the entire field acres.